

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NEVADA • APRIL 7, 2019 All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com. This passage can be found in the Pew Bible, in the Old Testament on page 630.

# "Dare to be a Daniel, Dare to stand alone; Dare to have a purpose firm, Dare to make it known."

-Phillip Paul Bliss, Dare to be a Daniel, (Circa 1873).

#### STUDY SECTION

# **TRIAL BY FIRE**

## 1. The \_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Daniel 3:5, NASB** -<sup>5</sup> ...at the moment you hear the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltery, bagpipe and all kinds of music, <u>you are to</u> fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up.

# 2. The \_\_\_\_\_.

**Daniel 3:15–18, NASB** -<sup>15</sup> "...at the moment you hear the sound of [all the instruments, you are] to fall down and worship the image that I have made...<u>But if you do not worship, you will immediately be cast into the midst of a furnace of blazing fire; and what god is there who can deliver you out of my hands?"</u>

# 3. The \_\_\_\_\_

**Daniel 3:16-18, NASB** - <sup>16</sup> Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego replied to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, <u>we do not need to give you an</u> <u>answer concerning this matter</u> [meaning, "We don't have to think about this matter" or "We don't have to think up an answer to give to you."] <sup>17</sup> "If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. <sup>18</sup> "But <u>even if He does not</u>, <u>let</u> it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."

Faulty Faith: "I'll trust You if You\_\_\_\_\_ Fireproof Faith: "I'll trust you even if I die."

"Fireproof Faith believes and relies in the divine <u>power of God</u> while submitting to the divine <u>will of God</u>." – Pastor Joe

#### LIFE APPLICATION SECTION

# **WHAT IS FIREPROOF FAITH?**

And without faith it is impossible to please [God] .... - Heb. 11:6, NASB

## A. Fireproof Faith is characterized by an Absolute Conviction.

**Daniel 3:17, NASB** - <sup>17</sup> "<u>If it be so [that we are thrown into a fiery furnace]</u>, <u>Our</u> <u>**God** whom we serve **is able** [exact Heb. word order is "<u>God is able</u> whom we serve"] to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire...</u>

# B. Fireproof Faith is characterized by a Strong Hope.

**Daniel 3:17, NASB** -<sup>17</sup> "our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and <u>He will deliver us out of your hand, O king</u>.

## C. Fireproof Faith is characterized by an Unwavering Resolve.

**Daniel 3:18, NASB** - <sup>18</sup> "<u>But even if He does not</u>, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."

hey knew it was <u>better to die a thousand times with God's approval</u> <u>than to live one day without it</u>. Better a fiery furnace than to live with the fire of a guilty conscience burning in their soul. <u>They could die</u>, <u>but they dare not sin</u>! Their convictions were not for sale. Not at any price, not even their own lives. - C.H. Spurgeon in his sermon on Dan. 3:18; ff., "even if He does not."

Answers: 1. Crisis, 2. Cost, 3. Choice.